



ask SHIP

Q: My neighbor told me she just had an Annual Wellness Visit. Is this something that is covered by Medicare?

A: The Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) is available to anyone with Medicare Part B. It is available once every year after the first year of Part B enrollment.

The Part B deductible doesn't apply, however, you may have to pay coinsurance, and the Part B deductible may apply if:

- Your doctor or other health care provider performs additional tests or services during the same visit.
- These additional tests or services aren't covered under the preventive benefits.

While similar to the Welcome to Medicare exam, the Annual Wellness Visit is available once every year after Part B enrollment.

The AWV provides an opportunity for you and your provider to develop or update a personalized plan to help prevent disease and disability.

To prepare for your Annual Wellness Visit, you should be prepared to give the provider a summary of:

- Information (if known) about your family's health history.
- Personal history of immunizations, illnesses, hospitalizations, surgeries, etc., including any new symptoms or treatments since the prior visit.
- A list of your prescription, over-the-counter, vitamins, and supplemental medication.
- A list of your providers and suppliers of medical equipment, if applicable.

The cognitive impairment assessment is performed to look for signs of Alzheimer's disease or dementia.

The personalized prevention plan is designed to help prevent disease and disability based on your current health and risk factors. Your provider will ask you to fill out a questionnaire, called a "Health Risk Assessment," as part of this visit. Answering these questions can help you and

your provider develop a personalized prevention plan to help you stay healthy and get the most out of your visit. It can also include:

- A review of your medical and family history.
- Developing or updating a list of current providers and prescriptions.
- Height, weight, blood pressure, and other routine measurements.
- Detection of any cognitive impairment.
- Personalized health advice.
- A list of risk factors and treatment options for you.
- A screening schedule (like a checklist) for appropriate preventive services. Get details about coverage for screenings, shots, and other preventive services.

• Advance care planning
If you have questions about your Annual Wellness Visit or anything else related to Medicare, call SHIP at 1-800-452-4800, 1-866-846-0139 TDD or online at www.medicare.in.gov. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.